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July 28, 2006

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VIA FACSIMILE

To: Examiner Gerald J. O'Connor

TMEMBER OF BAR OTHER THAN VA

Group Art Unit: 3627

U.S.P.T.O.

From: James E. Howard

Facsimile No.: (703) 761-2375 or 76

Facsimile No.: (571) 273-8300

Re: Enclosed Amendment After-Final Rejection Under 37 CFR §1.116 and Petition and Fee

for a One-Month Extension of Time

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/987,194

Docket No.: 206-019-01

Dear Examiner O'Connor:

Enclosed for filing is an Amendment in response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 5, 2006, along with two copies of the Petition and Fee for a One-Month Extension of Time, which should place the above-referenced case in condition for allowance.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration on this case.

Very truly yours,

James E. Howard

JEH/geb Enclosures

Total pages transmitted: 20